

State Energy Program/Rebuild America National Conference Update

U.S. Department of Energy • Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Tuesday, July 30, 2002

Two Energy Programs Blend Their Work at New Orleans Meeting



Bourbon Street is the heart of the French Quarter and filled with life, especially after nightfall.

Welcome to the 2002 State Energy Program/Rebuild America National Conference! The event marks the first time that these two U.S. Department of Energy programs—both part of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy—have come together to host a national conference. By combining conferences, the two organizations have created the unique opportunity for two audiences, with common ground, to share their experiences and perspectives.

Approximately 500 people registered for this week's conference in the Crescent City. Attendees can choose from more than 50 sessions organized into five tracks: *Technology Advancement*; *High Performance Buildings*; *Interconnections: Energy, Environment, Economy*; *Program Development*; and *Market Development and Transportation*. Session topics include solar energy schools, exploring new funding strategies, marketing energy efficiency programs and many more.

Stop by the exhibit hall, which is decorated in a French Quarter theme. Eighteen companies and organizations are displaying energy-efficient technologies, ideas and programs. Be sure to say hello to our Premier Sponsors: **Siemens Building Technologies**; **Angelo Brothers Company**; **Entergy**; **Honeywell International Inc.**; **New York State Energy Research and Development**

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Pick up your next National Conference Update tomorrow at the Rebuild America booth or the State Energy Program booth.

Agenda for Today

(Rooms are noted in parentheses)

7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration/Information Desk Open

8:30 - 9:45 a.m. **Opening Plenary**

9:45 - 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 - 11:45 a.m. **Concurrent:**

Technology **Solar Schools (Pelican 1)**

Buildings **Maximizing HVAC**

Mechanical Systems (Pelican 2)

Programs **Making the Whole Building**

Better than the Sum of the Parts:

ENERGY STAR Tools (Cabildo)

Programs **New Programs and Money:**

Restructuring Results (Vieux Carre A)

Interconnections **Expanded**

Partnership Opportunities (Poydras)

Markets **Developing the Infrastructure:**

A State's Role (Pontalba)

Markets **Why EnergySmart Schools**

Work (Vieux Carre B)

12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m. Lunch

Louisiana Energy Fund Overview

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. **Concurrent:**

Technology **Fuel Cells: A Clean Energy Alternative (Pelican 1)**

Buildings **Cost Controls with Total**

Building Controls (Pelican 2)

Programs **Marketing Your Energy**

Efficiency Agenda (Cabildo)

Interconnections **SEP Special Projects**

Showcase (Poydras)

Markets **Why EnergySmart Schools**

Work (Vieux Carre B)

Markets **Developing the Infrastructure:**

Private Industry Perspective (Pontalba)

Markets **Getting Green Buildings Built**

(Vieux Carre A)

3:30 - 5:00 p.m. **Concurrent:**

Technology **Avoiding Gridlock on Power Lines (Pelican 1)**

Buildings **Improving Performance in Portable Classrooms (Pelican 2)**

Programs **Designing a Program To Capture Results (Cabildo)**

Interconnections **Maximizing EEE Benefits (Pontalba)**

Interconnections **Expanded Partnership Opportunities (Poydras)**

Markets **Consumers (Vieux Carre A)**

Markets **LEED System (Vieux Carre B)**



The New Orleans Aquarium provided views of the residents as well as details on the energy efficiency of upgraded control systems.

Energy Efficiency Tour Sees Upgrades

An Energy Efficiency Tour rolled off to two New Orleans sites Monday to give State Energy Program and Rebuild America conference attendees a look at challenging and interesting projects that are not exactly what you will find in the typical government or commercial building.

A power generator for viewing on the Energy Efficiency Tour was a fuel cell, installed in a hospital. It was put in place to provide an example of a low-cost, reliable, energy-efficient system ready to pour out the juice in the event of an emergency. It runs on compressed natural gas, and the main thing the hospital needs is not another technology but insurance before full use is made of the equipment. The project is funded by the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources.

The other stop on the tour was the New Orleans Aquarium, where people on the tour saw retrofits installed by **Siemens Building Technologies** at the New Orleans Aquarium. The state-of-the-art facility provides aquatic environments with seven separate, closed-loop aquatic life-support systems. Each of those systems has its own temperature, water level, biological a particulate filtration, and ozone sterilization.

Siemens provides life support controls for several systems at the aquarium. One of the latest additions is a sea otter exhibit, where Siemens not only provided control equipment but installed the equipment and continues to work with zoo staff on daily operations. Earlier installations had been carried out by specialty companies. The people on the tour were able to learn specifics of how the aquarium staff, in concert with Siemens, has managed to continually reduce the energy costs of the facility.

Business Summit Hears of Plans

Rebuild America Business Partners met Monday in an annual summit. The gathering in New Orleans focused partly on how a more formalized relationship will be worked out between the program and business partners.

Currently, each business partner provides an action plan, but many partners are not yet active in pursuing projects. To try to boost the activity, Rebuild America now will develop a pre-qualification and application process that will devote more care to making sure companies are a good fit. Instead of an action plan, Rebuild America and the business partner then will use a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to formalize the commitments of both the program and the partner. A point system will be created to credit active partners for work they do.

The summit heard from Dan Sze, Rebuild America's National Program Manager; Doug Avery, the program's Business Partner Manager; Dennis Clough, the Products and Services Manager; and Rick Diamond of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.



Spotlight Falls on Energy Officials for 'Parade of States'

State energy officials proudly and creatively used their brief moment in the spotlight on Monday to promote their states during the State Energy Program's Parade of States.

The event was part of activities at the State Energy Program and Rebuild America 2002 National Conference in New Orleans.

Ranging from wacky and wild costumes and off-the-cuff remarks to reserved, scripted presentations, these energy officials celebrated this annual rite for the State Energy Program.

The ballroom crowd heard of such things as the Kentucky version of an ethanol program (called bourbon) and the Iowa claim to enjoying an average of 78 degrees Fahrenheit each day regardless of season. Many of the brief presentations played that way – tongues very much in cheeks.

Rivalries were easy-going. An official from Indiana modestly described his state as maybe a little better

than Illinois, but he didn't try to claim overwhelming superiority.

A sizable crowd gathered to watch the Parade of States in the afternoon.

Each year, the State Energy Program invites energy officials from all the states to participate in the Parade of States. State representatives receive 60 seconds to explain what "makes their state great," as one planning committee member put it. A gong was hit to make sure the 60-second limit was respected.

During these sixty seconds, representatives explain about their states history, attractions and – the reason for the conference – great work being accomplished to save energy and improve energy efficiency.

Historically, costumes, decoration and colorful language accompanied these promotions because there are no limitations on allowable zaniness. Creativity is definitely encouraged and was definitely on display.



The first day of the 2002 State Energy Program/Rebuild America National Conference, held in New Orleans, ended with a social gathering in the exhibit area. Attendees sampled food, drink, exhibitor information and the opportunities for networking among hundreds of people from around the country.

Welcome to Energy Conference and One Tasteful Historic City

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Authority (NYSERDA) and our Supporting Sponsors: **Magnaray® International**; **McQuay International**; **TRACO**; **The Trane Company**; and **Universal Natural Light**. The Exhibit Hall is open 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday; 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday; and 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

If you didn't get a chance to participate in one of the pre-conference tours, don't worry—you are just steps away from Bourbon Street and the historic French

Quarter. Be sure to stop by Café Du Monde for a beignet and some iced coffee. Or, try a po' boy at Mother's (401 Poydras St.; just a few blocks away from the hotel). If you have more time, board the St. Charles Streetcar (\$1.25 fare each way) and enjoy a ride through one of the most beautiful and historic avenues in the United States.

Thank you for joining us here in The Big Easy. We hope your time at the conference is both enjoyable and informative. *Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler! (Let the good times roll!)*